

**Neopit Community Meeting  
October 1, 2002-5:00 p.m.  
Neopit Community Building**

1. Legislators Present: Gene Caldwell, Joan Delabreau and Gary Besaw.  
Community Members Present: June Miller and Charlotte Wagner.

Meeting began at 5:00 p.m.

2. There needs to be a list published to let the public know about the new Tribal restructuring and who is on the committee's now. Would like to see something in the Menominee Nation News about what's going on.
3. June stated that she went to the Annual MTE meeting and they handed out a financial report. June thinks that the report needs to be clarified. The way the report looks now, it looks like MTE is making a lot of money and that's because the grants they received are included in the income. It is deceptive to the people who don't understand how budgets work and the Income on the reports need to be separated from the grants.
4. June would like to know if the air quality on the reservation is being monitored. June thinks that lately there have been a lot of people who are developing terrible respiratory problems and the air in Neopit is just covered with smoke every day and it never used to be that way.
5. The Tribe needs to see if there are any grants available for such things as updating sewer & water systems and side walks etc.
6. Why don't Neopit, Zoar & South Branch ever get anything new? It seems that Keshena gets everything all the time. Legislators explained that the biggest reason is, because Keshena is where a majority of the population live.
7. June would like to know, why the tribe can't seem to run a business properly. The three business brought up were the Casino, Auto Service Center and the Tribal Supermarket. June stated that there is no reason why all these business didn't flourish. June brought up the fact that Oneida is making a lot of money. Legislator's responded that Oneida is in an urban area and are bound to make more money. June asked why the Mohicans are making more money than we are then because they are

way in the boonies.

8. June said that she along with other tribal members are sick of seeing all these people with stories saying they need money to get their kids clothes, Christmas gifts and to pay their bills. These are the same people you see every night at bingo, casino or the bar just blowing their money away. Legislator's responded that there used to be a Citizen Action Grant that used to be available to tribal members in need and the money was taken out of contingency. With the current budget situation, requests aren't even being considered right now. June stated that the contingency budget is tribal money therefore it somewhat belongs to everyone and many community members don't like the idea of taking money out of that account to give to people just because they don't know how to budget their money or just because they would rather just blow their money on drinking or gambling.
9. June wanted to know if the tribe is appropriating money for people to travel all over the place and for the Pow-Wow. June doesn't think the tribe should be spending money on the Pow-Wow. Legislators stated that many people have kind of landmark the Pow-Wow weekend as sort of a homecoming. It's when many of the tribal members that live away from here take their vacation to come home. June believes that if there is a Pow-Wow, it should be privately funded. Legislators explained that both line items for funding the Veteran's Pow-Wow and the Annual Tribal Pow-Wow have both been eliminated.

10. Meeting ended at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Legislative Staff Services